



9-10-01

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Application No: 09/526,329

Attorney Docket No: CRO01.NP003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:
Carlo CROCE

Serial No.: 09/526,329

Art Unit: 1642

Filed: March 16, 2000

Examiner: Holleran, A.

For: TCL-1b GENE AND PROTEIN AND RELATED METHODS AND
COMPOSITIONS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This responds in full to the Official Action mailed April 2, 2001 (Paper No. 4). This response is timely filed by virtue of the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time, extending the time for response through and including September 7, 2001, thereby extending by 5 months the one-month extendable deadline set in the Official Action.

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Group I is elected without traverse. The Applicant respectfully submits that the restriction requirement is proper because, as the Examiner states, "... [the] groups are directed to different products, restriction is deemed to be proper because these products constitute apparently distinct inventions...."

The Applicants understand that an application for the non-elected claims can be filed prior to issuance of the parent application wherein the non-elected claims are entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the original application.

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Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into even better form, she is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

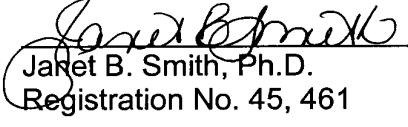
Respectfully submitted,

Carlo CROCE

Date

9/7/01

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